

BRITISH WATERWAYS LONDON

Fact File

British Waterways London manages 100 miles of canals and rivers and 110 acres of docks in the Capital. These are the Grand Union and Regent's Canals, the Rivers Lee and Stort, and the docks on the Isle of Dogs.

The historical importance of London's waterways to the social and economic development of the city cannot be overlooked. Today, almost one million Londoners live within a ten-minute walk of these waterways and each year more than 11 million visits are made to them for a huge variety of reasons. The Thames may be the centre of attention, but it is the many other rivers, tributaries, canals, reservoirs and docks which make London such a "water city" – in fact, almost 3% of London is covered by water.

British Waterways is contracted by government to ensure that navigation channels remain open and in a safe and well-maintained state. Much more than that, the organisation's role has broadened to one of stimulating new and innovative improvements for the benefit of all Londoners. There is enormous potential for the waterways to play a vital role in the regeneration of the Capital, as well as in delivering social, environmental and transport improvements and British Waterways London is already working hard to deliver these.

British Waterways London - Statistics 2001/2002:

▪ Miles of canals and rivers looked after	90
▪ Acres of docks looked after	110
▪ Number of bridges	153
▪ Number of aqueducts	9
▪ Number of locks	70
▪ Number of tunnels	2
▪ Number of weirs	57
▪ Number of flood gates	24
▪ Links to the Thames	4
▪ Area of London covered by water	2.8%
▪ Number of full-time staff	119
▪ Listed canal structures looked after	62
▪ Scheduled ancient monuments cared for	4
▪ Sites of Special Scientific Interest protected	9
▪ Miles of waterway designated as a Site of Metropolitan Interest or County Wildlife Site	53

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▪ Number of waterside events	200
▪ Number of waterside pubs	98
▪ Number of enquiries dealt with each day	300
▪ Total income of British Waterways London	
- Government funding	£Nil
- Licences/moorings income	£1,840,000
- Third Party funding generated	£4,157,000
- Other self-generated funding	£12,331,000
- Total	£18,328,000
▪ Total value of assets of British Waterways London	£125,000,000
▪ Commercial agreements in place	5,000
▪ Kilometres of fibreoptic cable under towpaths	400

British Waterways London is based at:

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